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PHILADELPHIA NO. 1 FREE DAILY IN THE U

Wednesday, February 10, 2016 metro.us | t: MetroPhilly | f: MetroPhilly

SUPER BOWL CHAMPION EAGLES

A look at five Philly football stars who won titles after leaving. 23

Matt Smith hearts him some Mr. Darcy. 18

Why you should hit up the Philly Home Show. 22

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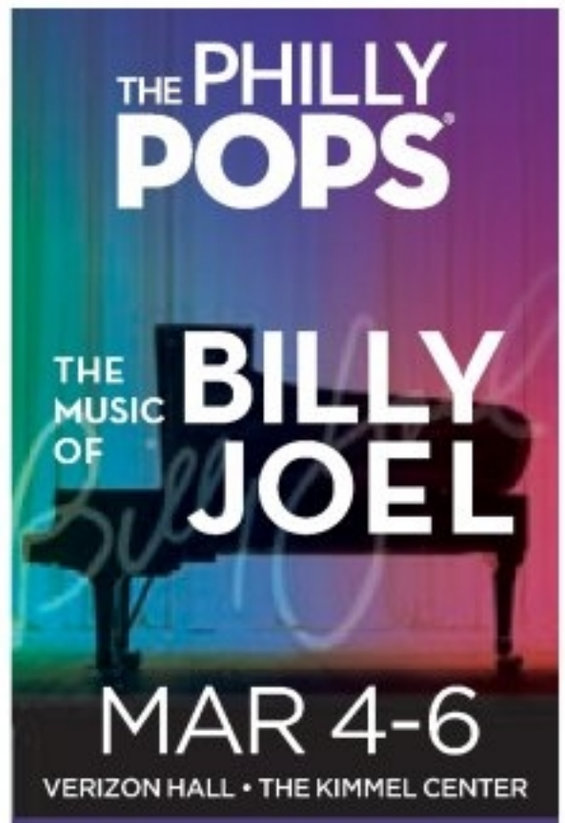

‘WE REFUTE RADICALS’

The leader of the Muslim organization that was linked to the radicalization of a cop shooter in now-debunked rumors speaks out. 6

CHARLES MOSTOLLER

HAIR COULD FETCH $10K

1 A lock of singer John Lennon's hair is expected to sell for more $10,000 when it is sold at auction later this month. Heritage Auctions, which is selling the hair of the late singer, said it was clipped and saved by a hairdresser in Germany in 1966. "To the best of our knowledge, this is the largest lock of Lennon's hair ever sold at auction," the auction house said in a statement. REUTERS

'HOMEGROWN' THREAT

2 Attacks by "homegrown" terrorists are among the most imminent security threats facing the United States in 2016, along with dangers posed overseas by Islamic State and cybersecurity concerns, the top U.S. intelligence official said on Tuesday. In his annual assessment of threats to the United States, Director of National Intelligence James Clapper warned that fast-moving cyber and technological advances "could lead to widespread vulnerabilities in civilian infrastructures and U.S. government systems." REUTERS

VIACOM AND SNAPCHAT

3 Viacom and Snapchat have extended a deal that will allow Viacom to sell advertising on the mobile app's behalf. Under the deal, Viacom will have the right to sell against its own content on Snapchat as well as Snapchat's U.S. owned and operated advertising inventory, a Snapchat spokesman told Reuters. REUTERS

7 THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW
MURAL TEAM EFFORT
7 Students at the Kensington Creative and Performing Arts High School in Fishtown help muralist Brad Carney paint his giant mural, "Welcome to the Neighborhood," on Tuesday. It will be installed in May 2016 on the corners of Dauphin Street and Frankford Avenue.

MAIN PHOTO BY CHARLES MOSTOLLER, ALL OTHER PHOTOS BY GETTY IMAGES

HEAD-ON CAR CRASH

4 A car accident in Philadelphia's Port Richmond area left three people injured including a 2-year-old toddler, ABC Philly reported. The incident, which occurred around 11:45 p.m. Monday, happened after the two cars, one of which was a utility truck, crashed head-on. The driver of the truck was reportedly not seriously injured in the collision, but emergency crews pulled the driver, a 36-year-old man; a 25-year-old female passenger and the toddler from the wreckage. All three were reportedly in stable condition in the hospital. MATT LEE

GERMANY TRAIN CRASH

5 Ten people were killed and at least 81 injured on Tuesday when two passenger trains collided head-on at high speed in remote countryside in southern Germany. One passenger was still missing, police said, and 18 of those injured were in serious condition. The crash happened during the morning rush-hour about half way along a 4-mile stretch between the spa town of Bad Aibling and Kolbermoor in Bavaria, near the border with Austria. REUTERS

FBI CAN'T UNLOCK PHONE

6 FBI Director James Comey said that federal investigators have still been unable to access the contents of a cellphone belonging to one of the killers in the Dec. 2 shootings in San Bernardino, California, due to encryption technology. Comey told the Senate Intelligence Committee that the phenomenon of communications "going dark" due to more sophisticated technology and wider use of encryption is "overwhelmingly affecting" law enforcement operations. REUTERS

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BRIEF

Former Chesco teacher charged with sexting student and child porn

A former Downingtown West High School chemistry teacher has been charged with trading explicit images and sexting with one of his teenage students.

Brandon Mitchell, 30, of West Chester, is charged with child pornography, unlawful contact with a minor and other related crimes, Chester County DA Thomas P. Hogan said.

Prosecutors allege that Mitchell and a 16-year-old student exchanged nude pictures and sent over 12,000 sexually explicit text messages to each other between May 2013 and December 2014.

Mitchell allegedly asked the student to send nude pictures to him and a video of the victim masturbating, which was sent, the DA reported, adding that Mitchell also sent nude photos of himself.

"This defendant used his position of trust and authority to engage in serious misconduct with a student," Charles Gaza, the district attorney's chief of staff, said in a statement. "As always in cases like this where a teacher had access to hundreds of students over multiple years, the authorities are concerned that there may be other victims out there."

Despite telling the victim to delete their correspondence, investigators recovered hundreds of communiques, including one in which Mitchell allegedly asked the victim to perform oral sex on him, the DA added. Mitchell is due to appear in court on March 9.

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Wolf: $2B budget gap is 'time bomb'

Philly leaders added their voices in support of Gov. Tom Wolf after he delivered his second budget address.

Tom Wolf FILE PHOTO

Pennsylvania's $2 billion budget deficit is a "time bomb" that could cause "fiscal catastrophe the likes of which we have never seen" if it is not resolved, Gov. Tom Wolf said in his budget address on Tuesday.

Wolf proposed a $32.7 billion fiscal 2017 budget that would add $200 million of funding for K-12 public schools and another $110 million to early and special education programs. Including pension contributions, the budget would be nearly $33.3 billion.

To pay for the increases, Wolf would increase personal income taxes by nearly 11 percent to 3.4 percent, expand sales taxes, raise taxes on tobacco products and implement a 6.5 percent severance tax on natural gas producers, according to documents released during his speech.

> *"Yelling will not make it go away. We need to do what's right."*
> Wolf

But dominating Wolf's message was the budgetary crisis escalated by political gridlock. Wolf, a Democrat, and the Republican-led legislature have disagreed since this time last year, when Wolf proposed his first budget.

Now seven months after the start of fiscal 2016 on July 1, the state still has only a partial $23.4 billion emergency spending plan.

Wolf had been ready to sign a negotiated $30.8 billion agreement but it was scuttled in December. Wolf reminded lawmakers of that turn of events on Tuesday. In web-streamed remarks, he urged them to send the agreement back to him.

"House Republican leaders just walked away," he said during his speech at the state capitol in Harrisburg. Some booed in response.

He later told lawmakers to "find another job" if they could not reach a solution.

His 2017 proposal is built upon the eventual approval of that compromise budget for the current fiscal year.

Senate Republicans, who had passed the budget compromise, said Wolf was "doubling down" on last year's proposal.

Unless next year's deficit is closed, property taxes for homeowners will skyrocket, Wolf said. More than 23,000 teachers and school employees would be cut, as would special education and pre-kindergarten programs.

Services for senior citizens, the mentally ill, child care and domestic violence shelters also would be slashed, he said.

REUTERS

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Muslim center defies 'radical' rumors

An Islamic society haunted by rumors of a cop's shooting says that it has nothing to hide.

SAM NEWHOUSE
@scnewhouse
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The AICP mosque CHARLES MOSTOLLER

In the wake of the shocking shooting of a local police officer by a suspect who declared himself motivated by Islam, shadows of suspicion fell on West Philly's sizable Muslim community.

A great deal of those suspicions, which were later proven false, arose based on an anonymous tip warning that police were in further danger.

The unidentified tipster said Edward Archer, who is charged with attempted murder for shooting Jesse Hartnett, who survived but remains in recovery, was part of a cell with three other men and had been radicalized while visiting a mosque at 45th and Walnut streets.

While within a week of the shooting, the FBI publicly said that tip was debunked, the rumor was a shock to members of the Association of Islamic Charitable Projects (AICP) — which has been part of West Philly for more than 20 years and is surrounded by a peaceful, welcoming Muslim residential and business community.

"It is just, forgive the term, ridiculous for someone to claim someone would come over here and get radicalized. It just doesn't fly," said Riad Nachef, AICP's president and also its founder back in 1990 when the neighborhood was vastly different.

"The only reason why I would think of someone who is radical in nature comes to attend our service is just of spying to see what we're doing, because what he would hear is the refutation of radicalism," he said.

Nachef, the son of a Syrian father and Palestinian mother who was born in Lebanon, said his community is in a strong position to refute the arguments of extremists who claim their radicalism is founded on the Quran — because they are "well versed religiously."

He said members of AICP deconstruct radical interpretations of the Quran, calling it Wahhabism, in a way that "the conclusion for the reader is they are lying, they are swindlers and they are using the texts out of context to drive the people in the wrong direction."

For that reason, Nachef said he wasn't fazed by the rumors about Archer's ties to AICP.

"I knew this would lose credibility very quickly," he said.

However, multiple members of the tight-knit community around 45th and Walnut told Metro they were spooked by the spotlight — and declined to be interviewed or identified on the record due to concerns of anti-Islamic reprisals.

> *"We know how to unmask the dogmas of extremism."*
> Nachef

Recent months in Philly have seen such incidents of Islamophobia as a pig's head left at a Kensington mosque and the beating of a young man in Center City for speaking Arabic.

Nonetheless, Nachef, who has seen gangs and drug traffickers disappear from the neighborhood around AICP to be replaced by welcoming small businesses, is optimistic.

"As far as we are concerned, we are here, our doors are wide open to talk to anyone. … For someone to come over here and to come out and say, 'I'm an ISIS guy,' or I'm this and that — it just doesn't stand."

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McCoy hires lawyer as DA looks at brawl case

Videos posted online appear to depict LeSean McCoy involved in a brawl at a Philly nightclub.

SAM NEWHOUSE
@scnewhouse
sam.newhouse@metro.us

Philadelphia police have completed their investigation into the alleged brawl between former Philadelphia Eagles star LeSean McCoy and off-duty Philly cops at a nightclub over the weekend, ESPN reported.

The Philly district attorney's office said Tuesday night that they were reviewing it for potential charges. McCoy hired Philly defense attorney Jack McMahon to represent him, "Outside the Lines" reported.

Earlier Tuesday, video surfaced that may show the incident. The video, available on Metro.us, shows McCoy's face as he appears to be swinging punches.

The fight at Recess nightclub in Old City happened around 2:45 a.m. Sunday and was reportedly sparked by a disagreement over a bottle of champagne. Two of the officers had to be hospitalized. One cop was "kicked, punched and stomped" during the fight, police said.

The brief video that purportedly shows the fight was posted on Crossing Broad, a Philly sports blog, along with photographs of McCoy at other points during the weekend which seem to confirm he was in Philadelphia.

Crossing Broad found images of one man in the video wearing a necklace and earring that seem to match what McCoy was wearing in other images depicting him around that time.

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Facebook pulls art museum promo

The offending art FACEBOOK

One of the nation's most prestigious art museums recently posted a painting of a woman licking an ice cream cone — an image that was inexplicably deemed offensive and yanked down.

Now, art lovers are wondering why.

The image was meant to promote "International Pop," a Philadelphia Museum of Art exhibit that delves into pop culture and art as a global phenomenon shaped by artists from around the world working in different mediums.

In Evelyne Axell's "Ice Cream," a young woman with long eyelashes is licking a phallic-looking ice cream cone. The image also appears on a billboard on the Schuylkill Expressway near the Spring Garden Street exit.

Facebook recently removed the image, informing the art museum that "Ice Cream" did not meet its ad guidelines because it contained "excessive amounts of skin or suggestive content."

The museum shared the news with its Facebook fans, and the response was self-evident. It is, after all, an ice cream cone.

"We chose this work by Evelyne Axell as one of our keystone marketing images because it speaks to so many themes found throughout pop – consumption, pleasure and seduction," said exhibition curator Erica Battle.

Axell was a Belgian pop painter best known for her psychedelic and erotic works of art that blended hedonistic and carnal expressions onto canvas. They challenged artistic conventions and embraced the sexual revolution of the 1960s.

Attempts to reach Facebook for comment were unsuccessful.

JENNY DEHUFF

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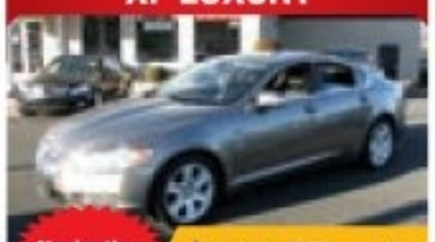
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Social media to enhance gov't accessibility: Kenny

Mayor Jim Kenney broke the social media mold Friday with his #AskKenney live Twitter chat session.

He opened the floodgates for Philadelphians to ask him anything — no holds barred.

In January, Kenney took the initiative and hired the city's first-ever digital director, who is responsible for managing the social media accounts of the mayor, including Facebook, Twitter and Instagram, for a salary of $95,000 a year.

"The mayor plans to have a Twitter chat every month, as part of the larger #AskKenney series," Stephanie Waters, the mayor's digital director, wrote in an email.

"I oversee the main Philadelphia accounts and the mayor's accounts, while also working to update website content and act as a resource for all the other departments. Going forward, I will start to work more closely with other departments to help them update their department websites and follow best practices for social media accounts."

Waters said Kenney got more than 200 questions in the days leading up to the #AskKenney Twitter session and during the hour allotted on his schedule for the chat. And the questions haven't subsided.

According to TrendsMap, which follows real-time local Twitter trends, the hashtag was trending in Philadelphia over the weekend.

Waters admitted the mayor and his limited communications staff got fairly inundated with questions during the one-hour set aside for the chat. They were able to respond to 19 in that time frame.

Kenney CHARLES MOSTOLLER

"No question, it's one of my favorite parts of the gig, and I know the mayor enjoys getting to see the range of concerns — from the 'is a hot dog a sandwich?' question, which we actually answered in one of our first Twitter chats — to the more serious, like, 'What can we actually do to reduce gun violence with the lack of action on policy?'" said Waters.

All the Tweets are available on Kenney's @PhillyMayor timeline, said Waters.

"Twitter has always been a way for me to engage with constituents informally," said Kenney.

"These chats increase that accessibility even further, and I've really enjoyed them."

Members of Kenney's communications staff have said he plans to continue this kind of Twitter chat session on a monthly basis, "as part of an ongoing effort to increase government accessibility."

The mayor is expected to also answer constituent questions each month on 900 AM WURD, the city's government-access Channel 64 and in other forms of media. JENNY DEHUFF

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Americans quitting their jobs as labor market strengthens

A total of 3.1 million Americans quit their jobs in December, the highest number since December 2006. That pushed the quits rate to 2.1 percent — the highest level since April 2008.

Job seekers wait in line to register for a job fair. GETTY IMAGES

U.S. job openings surged in December and the number of Americans voluntarily quitting work hit a nine-year high, pointing to labor market strength despite a slowdown in economic growth.

The signs of a robust jobs market could ease concerns about the health of the economy, which were underscored by other reports Tuesday showing a drop in small business confidence in January to a two-year low and further declines in wholesale inventories.

"If the labor market is tightening, can the economy really be faltering?" said Joel Naroff, chief economist at Naroff Economic Advisors in Holland, Pennsylvania.

Job openings, a measure of labor demand, increased 261,000 to a seasonally adjusted 5.61 million in December, the Labor Department said in its monthly Job Openings and Labor Turnover Survey (JOLTS). It was the second-highest reading since the series started in 2001.

The so-called JOLTS report is among the data watched by Federal Reserve officials to get a pulse on both the labor market and inflation.

The increase lifted the jobs openings rate to 3.8 percent from 3.6 percent in November. The hiring rate was unchanged at 3.7 percent, indicating that employers were having trouble finding qualified workers for vacant positions. REUTERS

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Obama proposes $4.1 trillion spending plan in final budget

The budget for the fiscal year beginning Oct. 1 is largely political and is unlikely to be passed by Congress.

President Barack Obama GETTY IMAGES

President Barack Obama proposed a $4.1 trillion spending plan for fiscal year 2017 on Tuesday in a final White House budget that laid out his priorities for fighting Islamic State, raising taxes on wealthy Americans and helping the poor.

But it gives the Democratic president, who leaves office in January, a chance to make a last pitch for funding on issues such as education, criminal justice reform and job creation while taking credit for economic strides during his tenure.

The spending proposal stayed within the confines of an agreement reached between the White House and Congress last year that lifted mandatory "sequestration" cuts on both defense and domestic spending.

It proposes lifting the limits entirely from 2018.

"My budget makes critical investments while adhering to the bipartisan budget agreement I signed into law last fall," Obama wrote in the budget document. "It also drives down deficits and maintains our fiscal progress through smart savings from health care, immigration, and tax reforms."

The proposed budget envisions a deficit of $503 billion in fiscal 2017 after a $616 billion budget gap in the current fiscal year ending on Sept. 30.

It seeks to cut deficits by $2.9 trillion over 10 years largely through shrunken tax breaks for wealthy earners, new savings in Medicare healthcare and assumptions that adoption of its policies would boost economic growth. REUTERS

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Flint mayor vows to replace pipes, seeks help with $55M tab

The mayor of Flint, Michigan, which is struggling to cope with dangerous levels of lead in its drinking water, said on Tuesday the city would replace all residents' pipes and was counting on state and federal help to foot the estimated $55 million bill.

The city of some 100,000 people was under the control of a state-appointed emergency manager in 2014 when it switched its source of water from Detroit's municipal system to the Flint River to save money.

That move has provoked a national controversy and prompted several lawsuits by parents who say their children are showing dangerously high blood levels of lead, which can cause development problems. Lead can be toxic and children are especially vulnerable.

REUTERS

Flint Mayor Karen Weaver GETTY IMAGES

"We're going to restore safe drinking water one house at a time, one child at a time."

Mayor Karen Weaver to reporters, adding she expects Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder to back the move.

7 Things You Must Know Before Putting Your Home Up for Sale

Philadelphia - A new report has just been released which reveals 7 costly mistakes that most homeowners make when selling their home, and a 9 Step System that can help you sell your home fast and for the most amount of money.

This industry report shows clearly how the traditional ways of selling homes have become increasingly less and less effective in today's market. The fact of the matter is that fully three quarters of homesellers don't get what they want for their homes and become disillusioned and - worse - financially disadvantaged when they put their homes on the market.

As this report uncovers, most homesellers make 7 deadly mistakes that cost them literally thousands of dollars. The good news is that each and every one of these mistakes is entirely preventable. In answer to this issue, industry insiders have prepared a free special report entitled "The 9 Step System to Get Your Home Sold Fast and For Top Dollar".

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Shkreli sued over his $2M Wu-Tang Clan album

Martin Shkreli faces a new legal headache, a lawsuit claiming that his $2 million Wu-Tang Clan album contains illustrations ripped off from a New York artist, who now wants the former drug executive to pay for them.

In a complaint filed Tuesday in Manhattan federal court, Jason Koza said he never allowed his fan art depicting Wu-Tang members to be used in packaging for the hip-hop group's "Once Upon a Time in Shaolin," the sole copy of which Shkreli bought.

Shkreli has bragged that he had no plans to listen to the album, but bought it to "keep it from the people."

The 32-year-old is also known for sparking outrage last year among patients, doctors and politicians after his former company Turing Pharmaceuticals raised the price of the anti-parasitic infection drug Daraprim by more than 5,000 percent.

Rap group Wu-Tang Clan GETTY IMAGES

Koza, 34, of Copiague, New York, said he thought his nine works would appear only on the website Wu-Disciples.blogspot.com.

But the Fashion Institute of Technology graduate now blames Wu-Tang leader Robert "RZA" Diggs for including them in the "Shaolin" album, and Shkreli for allowing three works depicting Inspectah Deck, Ol' Dirty Bastard and Raekwon to accompany a Jan. 29 article at Vice.com.

"Mr. Koza was happy when his work appeared on the website," the complaint said. "Mr. Koza never granted a license for his works to be copied or displayed anywhere [else]."

Other defendants include Paddle8, which auctioned the album, and Wu Tang-affiliated producer Tarik "Cilvaringz" Azzougarh.

Koza said Cilvaringz has acknowledged the infringement, asking in a Jan. 31 email "if you want to skype discussing the use of your drawings. Thanks bro."

Benjamin Brafman, a lawyer for Shkreli, did not immediately respond to a request for comment. REUTERS

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Nick Jonas isn't spending V-Day with Lily Collins

ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

Speculation continues to swirl about just how close Nick Jonas and rumored new fling Lily Collins are, but apparently, they will not be spending Valentine's Day together. To hear Jonas tell it, he doesn't have any plans at all for the romantic day — mainly because he just plain doesn't have time for them. "It's right before the Grammys, so there's a lot of stuff happening in L.A., so I've got to concentrate," he tells E! News. And right after that? "I've got a film" — the Sundance hit "Goat" — "at the Berlin Film Festival, so I've got to hop over there." Valentine's Day is just going to have to wait this year. And as for Collins, when "Entertainment Tonight" asked Jonas to comment on the rumors that the two were dating, he slyly replied, "I can't at all. At all," and then flashed a peace sign and a smile. Hmm, so don't feel *too* bad for the guy.

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Brie Larson's 10-year dad silence

The awards season circuit comes with a lot of its own unique, uncomfortable trials, as first-time Oscar-nominee Brie Larson is learning. Like, for instance, opening up about your personal life, no matter how painful.

Proving she's a natural and a champ, the "Room" star gamely opened up about her parents' divorce to Elle magazine — and about how she hasn't spoken to her dad for a decade. "When legally I didn't have to have visitation with him anymore, I jumped on it," she says. "As a kid I tried to understand him and understand the situation. But he didn't do himself any favors.

"I don't think he ever really wanted to be a parent," she continues. "It wasn't until truly recently that I realized that's why so much of my work was so volatile."

She handled that one quite well, I think. Next up: feigning amusement at the terrible jokes from the co-hosts of "The View."

It's a long road to the Oscars.

David Bowie's bodyguard spills on Jagger tryst

I guess the new period of acceptable grieving before the tawdry tell-alls start flying is now a month, because we've got our first breathless account of sordid behavior by the late David Bowie almost exactly a month after his passing. But at least this one is a classic.

In news that will come as no surprise to hard-core Bowie fans, his former bodyguard says the "Rebel Rebel" singer engaged in some pretty libidinous escapades with pal Mick Jagger — plus some guest stars — back in the 1970s. But hey, it was the '70s after all. Former bodyguard Stuart George recounts a particularly sordid evening involving Bowie, Jagger and an unnamed female singer in Bowie's dressing room.

"David told me to wait outside and make sure they weren't disturbed," George tells the Mirror. "[Russian ballet star] Rudolf Nureyev was partying with them but spotted them sneaking off and wanted to join in and said, 'I have to be in there.' I politely said, 'No.' I was under orders. David, Mick and the woman were in the closet for 20 minutes and came out with big smiles. It was obvious what had been going on." I mean, would you have turned him down?

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"Donald Trump" (Atamanuik) and "Bernie Sanders" (Adomian) in their raging live "debate." YOUTUBE

Long-time impressionist James Adomian and Upright Citizens Brigade fixture Anthony Atamanuik are keeping things relevant.

The former UCB comedians channel real estate magnate Donald Trump (Atamanuik) and Vermont Sen. Bernie Sanders (Adomian) in a mock debate that New York Times columnist Jason Zinoman called "the best comedy sketch about the current political campaign that I've seen this year."

Their tour — aptly named "Trump vs. Bernie: The Debate!" — hits the road this month, and we caught up with Atamanuik and Adomian days after their first stop in Los Angeles.

Where did you guys get the idea to start doing a mock debate?

James Adomian: It just came about that I was like, [to Tony], "I know you're doing Trump, and I'm doing Bernie, we should do a debate." Tony was smart enough to have a friend of his film it and put it on YouTube, and after that, we did a show at The Bell House [in Brooklyn, New York]. Now shows are selling out.

Why is the show so popular?

JA: I think that Trump and Sanders are the two most interesting personalities running for president, and I also think they're the two most ideologically opposed.

Anthony Atamanuik: Bernie, I think, is truly outside of the status quo of the Democratic Party, and [they] both make for a very interesting debate for a number of reasons. Kind of an intellectual versus an anti-intellectual.

How do you prepare your impressions?

AA: I was doing an improv show and just found I could do [Trump's] voice, so I worked it backwards. One thing I've noticed is that Trump has three different ways of behaving: He has Quiet Trump, which comes out in one-on-one interviews, and phone calls; there's Rally Trump, which is much more bellicose, shrill and raspy; and Pleading Trump, with the press.

JA: I've known about Bernie Sanders for a long time and loved him. For a long time, he was the only senator in the country who I thought was a good person. I had an impression that I would do privately, but I didn't think enough people would know who he was to pull it off in a show. There's two settings to Bernie. There's one that's just quiet: "Let's look at the numbers, that's just the way it should be." And then there's the barnstorming, populist rage side of Bernie. So I sort of alternate between those two sides.

Do your personal politics come into play in these performances?

AA: Oh, I'm definitely doing it to make a point. I think that in general, satire and comedy in the United States has lost its teeth, and I think too many major corporations own and fund the outlets of comedy that we see. Most content we watch is produced by Time Warner or some other parent company. The possibility you'll get some counter-cultural assessment of such a dangerous person running for president is crazy [unlikely].

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Yes, geeks watch 'The Good Wife'

If you guys read this column, you know I'm a geek. I watch geek TV, movies, read comic books and play video games. There aren't a lot of nongeek things that grab my attention. I mean, there's "Downton Abbey," but enough geek sites cover it that I don't feel like it's too outside of my realm. The one thing I watch that really surprises everyone is "The Good Wife."

I've loved Julianna Margulies since she played Morgana in "The Mists of Avalon." (It wasn't a great miniseries, but she was wonderful.) The first commercials for "The Good Wife" didn't exactly grab me — a drama about the wife of a sleazy politician isn't exactly something I care about. Then one day I was stuck at home sick and there was nothing else on. My Xbox wasn't working, there were no "Big Bang Theory" reruns. I landed on "The Good Wife."

I was riveted. I couldn't look away. The twists and turns, the incredible chemistry between the cast members. I didn't even know that Margulies and Archie Panjabi were reportedly feuding. They later filmed their final scene separately and had it digitally combined. It certainly didn't feel that way. The performances were just mind-blowing. No one in my circle of geek friends believed I was watching it, but I was there every single Sunday. Even the guest stars were amazing — I'm looking at you, Michael J. Fox (who appeared enough to be more of a series regular) and Carrie Preston. I can't stand legal dramas, and I still watched.

After years of incredible work, it was announced during the Super Bowl that "The Good Wife" was ending this season and that there were only nine episodes left. I mean, there were rumors, but it was a gut punch. Especially after adding the incredible Cush Jumbo as Alicia's new law partner Lucca Quinn, and Jeffrey Dean Morgan as Jason Crouse, the investigator/hot guy that Alicia is into. Smooches and friend love and ... I'm not getting over this for a while.

If you haven't watched it yet, you owe it to yourself to start streaming now. Bye, Alicia.

JENNA BUSCH

Geek Girl in Hollywood

Jenna Busch takes on the way pop culture snubs its female fans. For more columns, visit metro.us/jenna-busch as well as her site, legion of leia (www.legionofleia.com).

During the Super Bowl, CBS whimsically announced there are only nine episodes of "The Good Wife" left. JEFF NEUMANN, CBS

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Matt Smith has a secret

The former "Doctor Who" star did a twist on a beloved character for "Pride and Prejudice and Zombies."

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Matt Smith does a twist on the beloved Jane Austen character Parson Collins in "Pride and Prejudice and Zombies." JAY MAIDMENT

GETTY IMAGES

While he's earned a laugh or two during his harrowing adventures as "Doctor Who," British actor Matt Smith hasn't really taken on the part of comic relief. "Pride and Prejudice and Zombies" shows us what we've been missing. And Smith, 33, lets us in on a dark secret hidden with his befuddled Parson Collins, and it involves Mr. Darcy.

Were you familiar with the book before this?
No, I wasn't, no. I went back and read them both when I got the part, but I'd never read it. In England as well, it's on the literature list in some schools, but I guess in its original format it's not a book that would ever really appeal to me. Suddenly you throw zombies into it and you get slightly more appealing to my taste buds.

The joke of the book works better as a movie, I think.
It does lend itself to film, doesn't it? And also there's a zombie culture in film at the moment, isn't there? For better or worse. But adding the zombies, suddenly the Bennet sisters talking about which husband they're going to marry, to me the stakes of it become more interesting. There's a zombie apocalypse outside and they're still talking about which husband they're going to marry, do you know what I mean? And as an actor it allows you to make slightly bolder choices with the character, because the tone is already heightened.

The women having pretty bad-ass fighting skills makes it feel a bit more equal, but this is still a patriarchal world.
It's cool that the women are kind of kick-ass ninjas, isn't it? There's something kind of sexy about that. And it should be sexy, this film. I feel the Bennet sisters particularly are kind of sexy. You know, people getting their heads chopped off by hot women. That's why you should go and watch this movie.

How was it approaching a character who is so much the comic relief?
When I set out to do it, I thought it might be interesting if secretly he was in love with Mr. Darcy. So all the getting married is just about having to go through the manner and the period of the time and the fact that he's a man of God and all that. He feels obliged, but actually somewhere he's secretly harboring this secret desire for someone else. It somehow made it more interesting to me that he was carrying this other secret. Because in that time period it can't have been easy, either, a man of the clergy and all that. So it makes him a certain way. I just tried to be bold with it, and I thought, if you're going to do it, actually the point is to try and reinvent it. That's all I tried to do.

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Michael Moore: 'The Republican Party is over'

The firebrand storms the globe for great social services in "Where to Invade Next."

MATT PRIGGE
@mattprigge
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In "Where to Invade Next," out Friday, Michael Moore travels the globe, looking at social services done better in places other than America. SUBMERSIVE COMEDY

Michael Moore is back with his first movie in six years. "Where to Invade Next," which opens nationwide Friday, finds the political provocateur traveling the globe highlighting social services done better in other countries than in America. You see lavish school lunches in France, extravagant vacation time in Italy, prisons that actually seek to reform inmates in Norway, free women's health clinics in Tunisia. Thing is, he says, these can all be a reality here, too.

Things have been very, very bad for the world in the last few months, but I feel this film is an optimistic burst of fresh air. It's like a utopian thought experiment for ways to we could hypothetically fix little parts of America.

Except the difference between utopia and this is: This is all actually happening in these countries. This is real. It's not a fantasy. I want someone in charge here to tell me with a straight face they can do [healthful student lunches] in Slovenia but they can't do it here. Somehow they can afford it but we can't.

There's always a pushback against these issues, even good ones, and usually from the far right. Why do you think that is?

Because they're angry, old white guys — guys who like their La-Z-Boys, do the same things every day the same way. Change is hard to take. But it's too late. It's over. Those days are over. The Republican Party is over. The Republican Party can't win the White House. We would all have to stay home. Eighty-one percent of those voting next year are either female, people of color or young adults between the ages of 18 and 35. That's 81 percent of the population. They have offended and alienated all three of those groups. Not a single young person thinks they're cool. I haven't seen a lot of 19-year-olds running around with Ted Cruz T-shirts on. They're over, and they know they're over. That's why they push back on these things, because they know it's their dying days.

You made this film under the radar. You weren't talking about it on social media as you were making it, and people didn't know what it was until it played the Toronto Film Festival. Why did you do this incognito?

I wanted to unplug from the noise. I wanted to be away from the hype. We wanted to focus on the work. You don't know me personally — and I don't want to put words in your mouth — but you may think I'm somebody who likes to have the bully pulpit, who goes on the Oscar stage and screams, "Shame on you, Mr. Bush!" But I haven't been on TV since October of 2013.

Just friends

Do you actually tend to get along with conservatives?

Yeah. I treat them like human beings. I don't see them in a dehumanized manner. I don't see them as the devil. I just see them as wrong. And I love to debate. If they want to debate me on the issues, I love that. But if they want to go for personal attacks, I just say to them, "You know you're admitting you lost the debate on ideas, because you have to go to that place."

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The Buy Nothing Project is simple: Give what you can, take what you need and be a good neighbor in the process

MONICA WEYMOUTH
@MetroPhilly
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After a good, long, rewarding life, your curling iron finally gives up the ghost and goes to that big vanity in the sky. What do you do? Make a trip to Target? Hop on Amazon Prime?

If your neighborhood has a Buy Nothing group, maybe not. In that case, all you would have to do is post your request on the local Facebook page and wait to see what turned up. Last week, in the Bella Vista neighborhood of Philadelphia, plenty of members had a curling iron — or three — to spare, from barely used high-end models to trusty drug-store back-ups.

"It's just so rewarding to see how much we've been able to save as far as waste," says Paige Wolf, a local author, business owner and mother who started the Bella Vista chapter. "I feel like our culture is reaching that tipping point of consumerism. People are into living frugally, sharing with their neighbors and getting back to their roots."

Founded in Washington state and now boasting hyperlocal chapters worldwide, the premise of the Buy Nothing Project is simple: Give what you can, take what you need and be neighborly in the process. Offerings range from the very small — a bundle of basil from an overzealous plant, ice cube trays, coupons — to designer shoes, good-as-new couches and antique armoires that (surprise!) don't fit up the stairs on moving day. Requests, whether for a potato masher or an emergency crib for a foster child, are frequently met by people who were strangers the day before.

Families with young children find Buy Nothing groups especially helpful, both for sourcing last-minute snow boots and for cleaning out the overflowing toy chest. "At this point, I refuse to buy new clothes or shoes for my kids — all their clothes are hand-me-downs, and as soon as they're done, we pass them on," says Wolf. "You can buy so much less stuff than you think you need, and that can be really freeing."

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Meet Alison Victoria

The designer will make a stop at the Philly Home Show.

ALLIE VOLPE
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Get design tips from Alison Victoria this weekend. PROVIDED

For Alison Victoria, the most important room in a home is the kitchen. As the host of DIY Network/HGTV's "Kitchen Crashers," the designer knows a thing or two about what makes the space so special. This weekend, she'll be at the Philly Home Show at the Pennsylvania Convention Center to discuss, not only the kitchen, but the entire home.

"It's a compilation of design tips and talks that encapsulates everything I do from my own business to the show — everything from space planning to lighting to color," says the designer about her talk, which will take place on the convention center's main stage at 6 p.m. on Friday, and noon and 3 p.m. on Saturday.

Can't make the show? Victoria shares some tips with us:

Get savvy

"A lot of people don't have $100,000 to remodel their kitchen," says the designer. Her advice: Tackle the smaller updates and quick fixes.

Victoria recommends painting cabinets and replacing cabinet hardware with new fixtures. She loves Anthropologie and Amazon for finds.

For the renters

Victoria recommends a few cost-effective tweaks that can be easily installed and removed when you leave, like temporary backsplashes.

"When you're a renter, you're not putting that kind of money into your space," she says. "You still want it to feel like home, you still want to feel like it's a little piece of you while you're living there."

In her own home?

One of her favorite projects in her home was transforming a former bank vault in the house into a walk-in vault for shoes.

"I've been working on my house for years. I'm constantly looking at my space and rethinking different areas," she says.

Catch Alison Victoria at the Philly Home Show on Feb. 12 and 13, Pennsylvania Convention Center, 12th and Arch streets. Admission is $13 at the door.

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LeSean McCoy's face was visible in a reported video of the incident. GETTY IMAGES

McCOY, MANZIEL ADD TO NFL'S IMAGE PROBLEM

The NFL still has a problem.

The news cycles following the Broncos' Super Bowl 50 victory over the Panthers have been centered around professional football players. Just not the ones who hoisted the Lombardi Trophy.

Johnny Manziel, a talented college quarterback once ubiquitous enough to be known as "Johnny Football," has continued to fall from grace. Accusations have returned about possible criminal charges for beating a former girlfriend, as has the Browns supposedly lying on an injury report to cover up Manziel's drunkenness prior to their Week 17 game. Additionally, ESPN's Adam Schefter said Manziel was "hung over" at a Browns meeting after the end of the regular season.

And LeSean "Shady" McCoy, the Eagles' all-time leading rusher and one of the top running backs in the game, could face serious criminal charges after his alleged involvement in a brawl with off-duty cops in a Philadelphia night club. Tuesday afternoon reports on the McCoy case said that Philly police completed their investigation and turned it over to the District Attorney's office. Charges could be filed at any moment.

EVAN MACY

OPINION

Evan Macy is the Philadelphia Sports Editor and a columnist at Metro US.

Follow him on Twitter @evan_macy

All of this amid continued talk of an increase in NFL concussions during the 2015 season (with players retiring early every season because of it).

The Super Bowl failed to eclipse a record number of viewers, and that is likely due to the small-market teams and the boring game. But it could also be due to the exasperation of fans with the sport's descent due to player misconduct.

Cable news channels like CNN and Fox News contemplated the "anti-police" message Beyoncé was spreading during her halftime performance as compromising the NFL's wholesome entertainment message. But the NFL these days is anything but wholesome.

And future Hall-of-Famers are not immune either. Both Tom Brady (Deflategate) and Peyton Manning (HGH allegations) are also the centerpieces of off-field controversies.

With football remaining unquestioned as America's favorite game, the best athletes in the country are choosing to pursue NFL dreams instead of another major sport. Stars like Manziel and McCoy are joining the likes of Adrian Peterson, Ray Rice, Greg Hardy and a bevy of others, and with parents scared of the ever-increasing numbers of CTE-positive former players, the tipping point could be coming soon.

Which is good news for soccer and baseball. But not for America's thirst for football.

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These five former Eagles stars won Super Bowls playing for other teams

The Eagles have never won a Super Bowl title, but several important Birds' stars have (with different clubs) over the years.

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No matter which way Super Bowl 50 went, a former Eagle or three were walking away with rings. Former Birds' safety Kurt Coleman was starting for the Panthers, coached by Ron Rivera and Sean McDermott, who both coached under Andy Reid in Philadelphia. On the other side of the field, the Broncos featured Evan Mathis, Jordan Norwood, and Eagle-for-a-month Ryan Harris, signed in August 2011 and released in September 2011.

Mathis, Norwood and Harris weren't the first Birds to leave the nest and find glory. While the Eagles themselves have famously never won a Super Bowl, a few of their greatest talents have captured a championship after leaving Philadelphia.

Reggie White

The man needs no introduction, but certainly warrants one.

As an Eagle from 1985 to 1992 White recorded more sacks, 124, than games played, 121, including a then-NFL record 21 sacks in the strike-shortened 1987 season. Under Buddy Ryan and successive coaches, the Eagles defense became a terror around the league.

Already firmly entrenched in discussions as the greatest defensive lineman of all-time, White won Super Bowl XXXI with Green Bay in 1996. He recorded three sacks in the game. The Packers would return to the Super Bowl in 1997, but lose to the Denver Broncos. When he retired in 2000, White was the NFL's all-time sack leader with 198. He has been inducted into the Hall of Fame, and his No. 92 retired by the Eagles and Packers.

Seth Joyner

White was joined on that fearsome Eagles' defense by Seth Joyner. Joyner was a three-time All Pro selection as an Eagle, and was named NFL Player of the Year in 1991 by Sports Illustrated. His beginning with the Eagles wasn't quite as heralded — he was actually cut during Eagles training camp as a rookie, before being re-signed that season.

In 1997, he joined White on the defending Super Bowl Champion Packers. They would return to the Super Bowl, but lose to the Denver Broncos. The next year, Joyner returned to the Super Bowl, this time as a Bronco. Their Super Bowl XXXIII victory was Joyner's last game.

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Evan Mathis held out with the Eagles but wound up making less money in Denver. But, he won a Super Bowl ring. GETTY IMAGES

Evan Mathis

Mathis' last offseason was one better left forgotten. To backtrack a bit, he joined the Eagles in 2011, and became a fixture at left guard for the team. He was named to his first Pro Bowl in 2013, while the offense took the league by storm during Chip Kelly's first season. Mathis, like every other lineman, started all 16 games that season.

With Mathis' desire for a raise the worst-kept secret in the world, trade rumors began swirling a year ago. Kelly declared the Eagles had not found a willing trade partner. Mathis held out of voluntary offseason workouts, and before he could report to the first mandatory minicamp, Kelly pulled the plug, cutting Mathis.

While many claimed Mathis' actions had backfired, pointing to the much cheaper contract he received in Denver, he just started for a Super Bowl champion while Philadelphia had no replacement for him on the offensive line this season.

Duce Staley

Thrust into the featured back role when Ricky Watters and Charlie Garner left the team, Staley topped the 1,000-yard mark three times for the Eagles from 1998 to 2002, while struggling to stay on the field and, eventually, competing with Brian Westbrook and Correll Buckhalter for playing time. When Andy Reid brought his West Coast offense to the city, it demanded a running back able to catch the football, and Staley was the answer.

In 2004, with Westbrook increasingly becoming a star, Staley left Philadelphia but not the state, signing with the Steelers as the eventual replacement to Jerome Bettis. Staley was again beset by injuries however, and after managing 830 yards in 10 games his first season, he fell to third string after the emergence of Willie Parker in 2005. Ten years ago he won Super Bowl XL with the Steelers.

Dick Vermeil

Sure, Vermeil isn't technically a player, but he's as beloved in Philadelphia as almost any of them. He became the Eagles' head coach in 1976 and took over a franchise that was ten years removed from their last winning season, and had just two since their 1960 NFL Championship. By 1978, Vermeil had the Eagles in the playoffs, thanks to the likes of Ron Jaworski, Wilbert Montgomery and Harold Carmichael, and by 1980 they were in the Super Bowl.

They lost, and Vermeil retired after a 3-6 strike-shortened 1982 season. He would not return to coaching until 1997 when he took over the St. Louis Rams. His first two seasons were miserable, but after an injury promoted Kurt Warner to starter, the Rams "Greatest Show on Turf" offense dominated teams, and they eventually beat the Titans in Super Bowl XXXIV.

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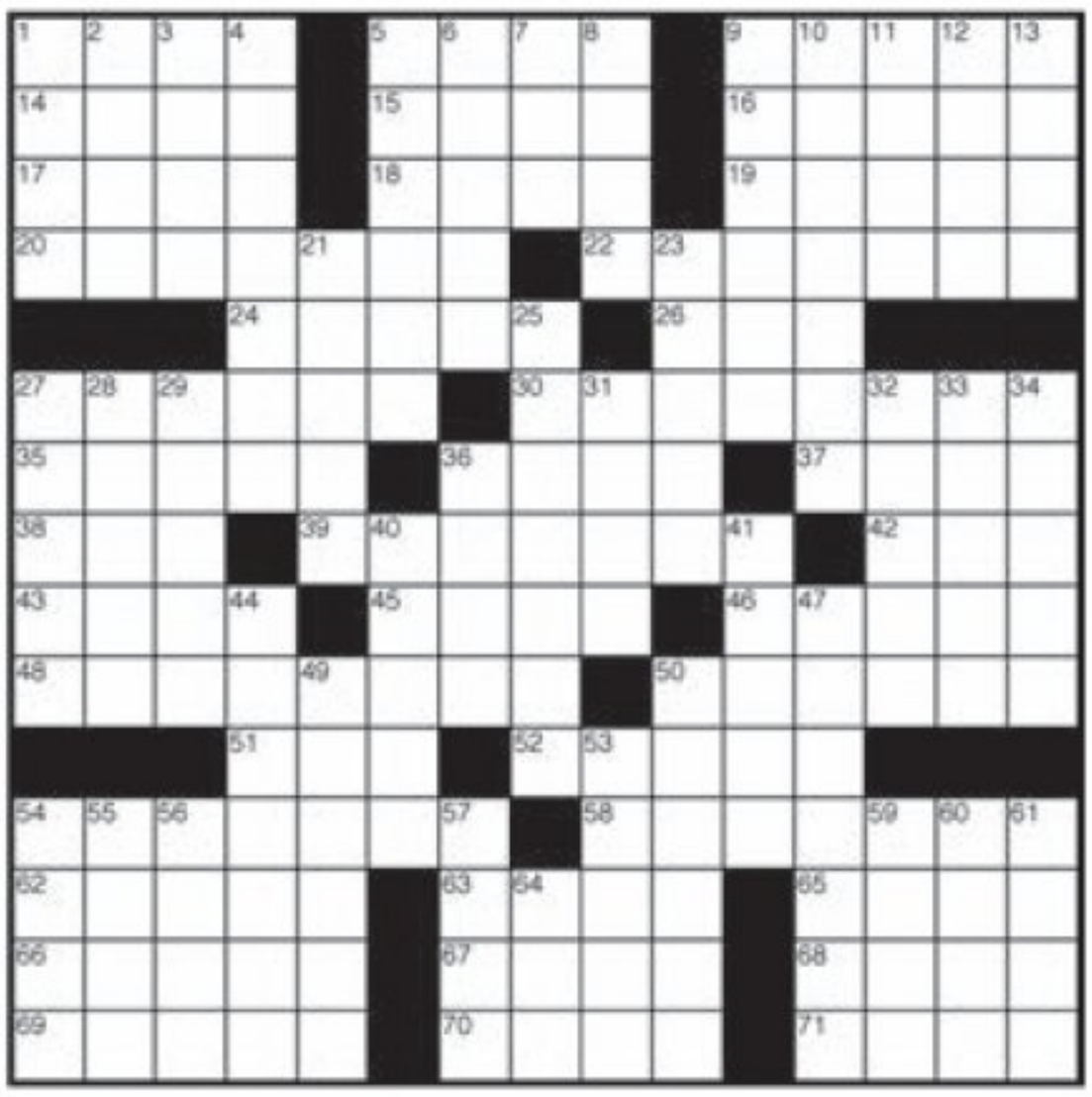

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1 Grumble
5 Zen riddle
9 Got lighter
14 Ocean fish
15 Lane who sang with Cugat
16 Love in a gondola
17 Novelist — Bagnold
18 Winning margin
19 Rock climber's foothold
20 Tact
22 Place for leisure (2 wds.)
24 Roomful of students
26 King, to monsieur
27 Tent securers
30 Bit down hard
35 Search party
36 "Read 'em and —"
37 Autobahn vehicle
38 It may be abstract
39 Sun orbiters
42 Tonic partner
43 DEA operative
45 Made cheddar better
46 Total, maybe
48 Take upon oneself
50 Not lukewarm
51 Family mem.
52 Investment return
54 False move
58 Keep a promise
62 Concede
63 — lang syne
65 Real estate unit
66 — gotta be kidding!
67 It has rings
68 Slow run
69 Make different
70 Rustler's target
71 To be, to Brutus

Down

1 Upscale cook
2 Rajah's consort
3 Similar
4 Adorns
5 Sunflower State
6 Bassoon cousins
7 Tummy muscles
8 — -do-well
9 Han Solo's "Millennium —"
10 Either of two continents
11 Long-gone bird
12 Thus
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21 Lie dormant
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31 It may be frail
32 Even bigger
33 Royal decree
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36 Hourly pay
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41 Rise, as a river
44 Handwritten
47 Extend, as spokes
49 Scrabble tile
50 Listened to
53 Loafer
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55 Goddess's statue
56 Soot
57 Hiking trail
59 TV hookups
60 Romantic deity
61 Nerve network
64 Suffix for forfeit

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easy

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	7							

hard

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		6		2	3			5

metro.us/horoscopes

Aries Don't waste your time trying to convince others to do things your way. Follow through with your plans and let your achievement speak for itself.

Taurus You'll capture attention. Step things up a notch and show everyone what you are capable of doing. Romance will brighten your day and lead to a better relationship.

Gemini In order to bring about worthwhile change, you will have to be adaptable and disciplined. Use your intelligence and experience to help guide you in a direction that is realistic.

Cancer Make personal changes that will build your confidence and help you step into the limelight. You will attract the interest of a unique and gifted individual.

Leo A serious attitude coupled with a plan to bring about positive change will put you in a position to make a difference to your community or environment.

Virgo Have some fun. Showing your playful side will bring someone you enjoy being with to your side. Sharing your feelings will encourage romance. Live, love and laugh.

Libra Don't put up with someone spouting nonsense or trying to control you. Quietly do your own thing and avoid interference. Make decisions that benefit yourself, not someone else.

Scorpio Look for a creative outlet or a way to use your skills diversely. There is money to be made if you try something new. A partnership looks fruitful.

Sagittarius Unrealistic promises will influence your current position. Be honest about what you can and will do. Get the qualifications or master the skills you need to follow your dream.

Capricorn Keep an open mind when it comes to love. Make an offer and let the response determine your next move. You will end up in a good position.

Aquarius Don't give in to someone's demands. A positive change to your position, status or reputation will unfold if you are firm and calm. Patience will be required.

Pisces You've got the edge when it comes to a competitive challenge. Let your intuition lead the way in order to find the success you are searching for. EUGENIA LAST

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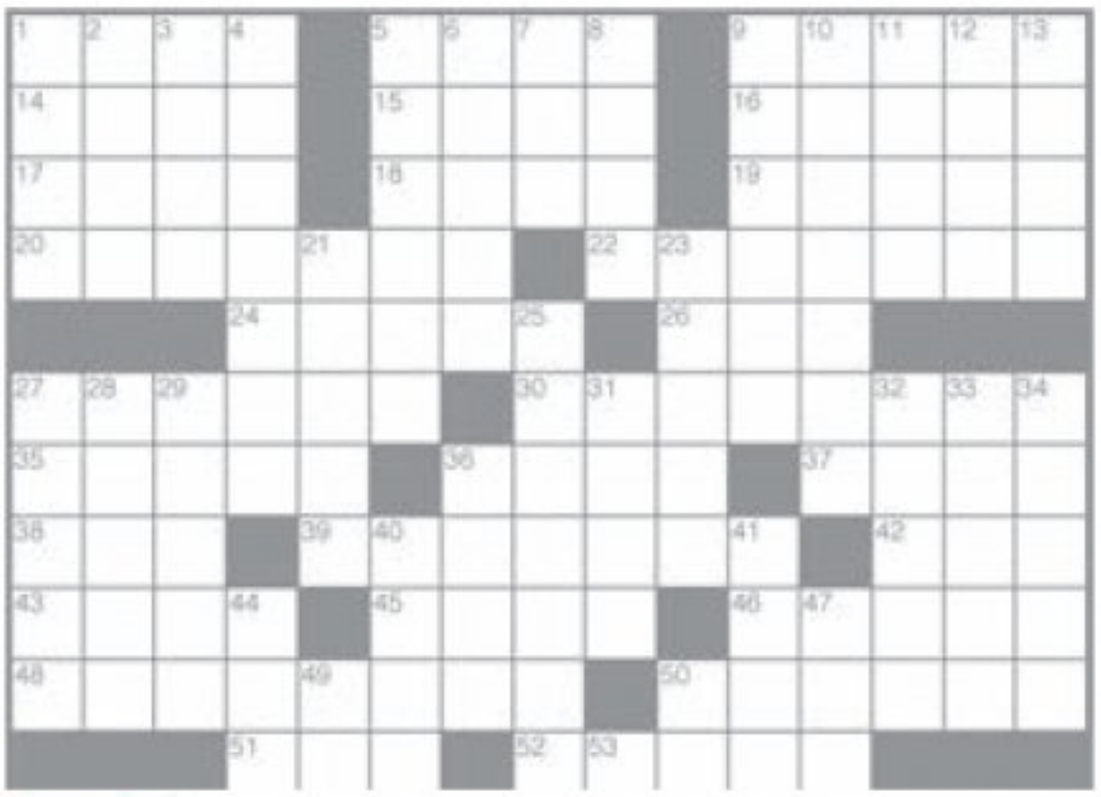

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35 Search party
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38 It may be abstract
39 Sun orbiters
42 Tonic partner
43 DEA operative

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68 Slow run
69 Make different
70 Rustler's target
71 To be, to Brutus

8 — -do-well
9 Han Solo's "Millennium —"
10 Either of two continents
11 Long-gone bird
12 Thus
13 Form an opinion
21 Lie dormant
23 Spew ash
25 Vistas
27 Reaches across
28 Scroll in an ark
29 Jetsons' dog
31 It may be frail
32 Even bigger
33 Royal decree
34 Small-time
36 Hourly pay
40 Tureen partner
41 Rise, as a river
44 Handwritten
47 Extend, as spokes
49 Scrabble tile

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